

In the United States Court of Federal Claims

OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS

No. 19-0224V

UNPUBLISHED

GEOFFREY GRIFFIS,

Petitioner,

v.

SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES,

Respondent.

Chief Special Master Corcoran

Filed: January 24, 2020

Special Processing Unit (SPU);
Ruling on Entitlement; Concession;
Table Injury; Influenza (Flu) Vaccine;
Hepatitis A Vaccine; Guillain-Barre
Syndrome (GBS)

Anne Carrion Toale, Maglio Christopher & Toale, PA, Sarasota, FL, for petitioner.

Voris Edward Johnson, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC, for respondent.

RULING ON ENTITLEMENT¹

On February 8, 2019, Geoffrey Griffis filed a petition for compensation under the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program, 42 U.S.C. §300aa-10, *et seq.*,² (the “Vaccine Act”). Petitioner alleges that he suffered Guillain-Barré syndrome (“GBS”) as a result of an influenza (“flu”) vaccine and hepatitis A (“hep A”) vaccine that he received on January 30, 2018. Petition at 1. The case was assigned to the Special Processing Unit of the Office of Special Masters.

On January 24, 2020, Respondent filed his Rule 4(c) report in which he concedes that Petitioner is entitled to compensation in this case. Respondent’s Rule 4(c) Report at 1. Specifically, Respondent states that “petitioner suffered the Table

¹ Because this unpublished ruling contains a reasoned explanation for the action in this case, I am required to post it on the United States Court of Federal Claims’ website in accordance with the E-Government Act of 2002. 44 U.S.C. § 3501 note (2012) (Federal Management and Promotion of Electronic Government Services). **This means the ruling will be available to anyone with access to the internet.** In accordance with Vaccine Rule 18(b), Petitioner has 14 days to identify and move to redact medical or other information, the disclosure of which would constitute an unwarranted invasion of privacy. If, upon review, I agree that the identified material fits within this definition, I will redact such material from public access.

² National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986, Pub. L. No. 99-660, 100 Stat. 3755. Hereinafter, for ease of citation, all “§” references to the Vaccine Act will be to the pertinent subparagraph of 42 U.S.C. § 300aa (2012).

injury of GBS following a flu vaccine within the Table time period, and there is not a preponderance of the medical evidence that petitioner's GBS was due to a factor unrelated to the vaccination." *Id.* at 7. Respondent further agrees that there is not a preponderance of the medical evidence that Petitioner's GBS was due to a factor unrelated to the vaccination and that this claim also meets the statutory severity requirements because Petitioner experienced sequelae of his GBS for more than six months. *Id.* Respondent agrees that Petitioner has satisfied all legal prerequisites for compensation under the Act.

In view of Respondent's position and the evidence of record, I find that Petitioner is entitled to compensation.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

s/Brian H. Corcoran

Brian H. Corcoran
Chief Special Master